

## Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

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C O N F I D E N T I A L TEL AVIV 5221

NESCO

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PORG, OCON, UNESCO, IS

SUBJECT: SOME SUGGESTED STRATEGIES FOR UNESCO GENERAL CONFERENCE

REFS: (A) PARIS 21196, (B) SAN JOSE 3515, (C) PARIS 21576,

(D) STATE 184957

1. SUBSTANCE OF REFTELS WAS DISCUSSED JULY 27 WITH NATHAN BAR-YAACOV, MFA DIRECTOR OF INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS. HIS COMMENTS MAY BE OF USE TO THE DEPARTMENT AS IT CONSIDERS STRATEGY FOR THE 19TH GENERAL CONFERENCE.

2. ADMISSION OF ISRAEL INTO EUROPEAN REGION. BAR-YAACOV SAID HE HAD NOTED THE HESITANCY OF MOST WEST EUROPEAN COUNTRIES AND THEIR RELIANCE ON AND WILLINGNESS TO FOLLOW THE LEAD OF THE U.S. ON THE SUBJECT OF ISRAELI MEMBERSHIP IN THE REGIONAL GROUP. THIS WAS NOT ENCOURAGING. THE WEST EUROPEANS THEMSELVES SHOULD TAKE THE PRIMARY INITIATIVE IN CANVASSING OTHER EUROPEAN GROUP MEMBERS REGARDING ISRAELI MEMBERSHIP. THERE SHOULD BE A SINGLE JOINT APPROACH TO THE SOVIET UNION IN THE NAME OF ALL NON-SOCIALIST MEMBERS OF THE EUROPEAN GROUP AND THIS  
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APPROACH SHOULD NOT BE THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE UNITED

STATES, ALTHOUGH HE AGREED THAT IT WOULD BE USEFUL FOR THE U.S. TO DISCUSS THE ISSUE WITH THE SOVIETS INFORMALLY AND IN THE CONTEXT OF BILATERAL RELATIONS. HIS PREFERENCE WAS FOR A STAGED APPROACH TO THE ISSUE IN WHICH ISRAEL AND THE UNITED STATES WOULD FIRST SEEK THE SUPPORT OF MEMBERS OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY AND THEN OF OTHER WESTERN EUROPEAN STATES, I.E., THE SCANDINAVIAN COUNTRIES, SWITZERLAND AUSTRIA. FOLLOWING THIS, AND USING THE EUROPEANS THEMSELVES, APPROACHES SHOULD BE MADE TO THE PERIPHERAL STATES--SPAIN, PORTUGAL, MALTA, GREECE AND TURKEY. THEN THE SUPPORT OF YUGOSLAVIA AND ROMANIA SHOULD BE SOUGHT AND, AT THE FINAL STAGE, THERE SHOULD BE AN APPROACH TO THE SOVIET UNION AND OTHER EASTERN EUROPEANS. HE SAID THE STATEMENT MADE BY DIRECTOR GENERAL M'BOW TO AMBASSADOR TODMAN THAT ISRAEL'S APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP IN THE EUROPEAN REGIONAL GROUP HAD BEEN IMPROPERLY PREPARED WAS UNTRUE; THE APPLICATION HAD INDEED BEEN WELL PREPARED AND THE MAJORITY OF THE MEMBERS OF THE EUROPEAN GROUP WERE IN FAVOR OF IT.

3. THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES. BAR-YAACOV SAID THAT THE ISRAELI DELEGATION TO UNESCO HAS BEEN INDIRECTLY IN TOUCH WITH M'BOW THROUGH THE AMBASSADOR OF BENIN (BOIFFER-PALUN) IN AN EFFORT TO TRY TO FIND AN ACCEPTABLE FORMULY FOR A TEAM TO VISIT THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES. HOWCVER, THAT EFFORT HAS NOT YET LED TO AN AGREED POSITION. WHETHER AGREE-MANT WILL BE POSSIBLE WILL DEPEND IN THE FINAL ANALYSIS ON WHO THE MEMBERS OF THE TEAM ARE TO BE AND WHAT THEIR TERMS OF REFERENCE ARE. HE AGREED WITH THE IDEA OF BYPASSING THE GENERAL CONGERENCE ON THIS SUBJECT BY HAVING M'BOW REPORT THAT A VISIT WAS UNDERWAY OR PLANNED FOR THE NEAR FUTURE.

4. JERUSALEM EXCAVATIONS. BAR-YAACOV SAID ISRAEL HAS HEARD NOTHING FROM THE SECRETARIAT SINCE LEMAIRE'S LAST VISIT IN MAY, SHORTLY BEFORE THE EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING. HIS UNDER- STANDING IS THAT LEMAIRE IS NOW PREPARING A REPORT FOR THE GENERAL CONFERENCE. HE DISAGREED SHARPLY WITH M'BOW'S STATEMENT TO AMBASSADOR TODMAN THAT HE (M'BOW) HAS BEEN HAVING CONFIDENTIAL DISCUSSIONS WITH ISRAEL REGARDING SENDING A REPRESENTATIVE TO INVESTIGATE THE JERUSALEM EXCAVATIONS. THE ONLY COMMUNICATIONS WITH M'BOW HAVE BEEN THROUGH THE CONFIDENTIAL

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BENIN AMBASSADOR REGARDING THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES, AND BAR-YAACOV SAID HE HAS NO KNOWLEDGE OF ANY ADDITIONAL VISIT PLANNED BY LEMAIRE OR ANY OTHER REPRESENTATIVE. HOWEVER, ISRAEL WOULD BE WILLING TO CONSIDER ANOTHER VISIT BY LEMAIRE, DEPENDING ON THE TERMS AND THE CIRCUMSTANCES. (HE ADDED THAT ISRAEL HAD REFUSED TO PERMIT LEMAIRE ALSO TO VISIT THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES DURING HIS LAST VISIT BECAUSE IT WAS CONSIDERED THAT HIS FIELD FO EXPERTISE WAS ARCHAEOLOGY AND

HE SHOULD NOT BE ASKED TO REPORT ON EDUCATION IN THE TERRITORIES.) BAR-WAACOV SAID HE FELT M'BOW WAS SOMEWHAT BEHIND THE TIMES IF HE FELT THAT THE NEXT STEP IN THE EXCAVATIONS SHOULD BE A GESTURE BY THE ISRAELIS; ISRAEL FEELS IT HAS ALREADY MADE A GESTURE OF GOOD FAITH BY ACCEPTING LEMAIRE AFTER THE CONDEMNATORY RESOLUTION.

5. ZIONISM REFERENCE IN THE MASS MEDIA DECLARATION. BAR-YAACOV SAID HE AGREED WITH THE GENERAL APPROACH TO THE SUBJECT OUTLINED IN REFTEL (A). THE BEST WAY TO HANDLE THIS IS TO "KILL IT WITH SILENCE" IN THE GENERAL CONFERENCE. ISRAEL STILL BELIEVES THAT THE GENERAL QUESTION OF THE ROLE OF INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS AND FREEDOM OF THE PRESS IS ONE THAT SHOULD BE CAREFULLY EXAMINED.

6. IN GENERAL BAR-YAACOV REPEATED THE VIEWS HE AND OTHER MFA OFFICIALS HAVE EXPRESSED TO US RECENTLY. HE SAID THE GENERAL CONFERENCE WILL BE MUCH MORE SUCCESSFUL FROM THE WESTERN POINT OF VIEW IF THE UNITED STATES ADOPTS CLEAR POSITIONS ON ISSUES AND MAKES THOSE POSITIONS KNOWN FORCEFULLY BOTH TO FRIENDS AND OPPONENTS.

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